

Abstract 484

TITLE: Prevention of Perinatal Transmission: A Community-Based Case Management and Education Program

AUTHORS: Emmanuel, P; Mcleod, M; Baltzell, J; Alexander, BC (University of South Carolina, College of Medicine and College of Public Health)

ISSUE: The prevention of perinatal transmission of HIV requires targeted education of obstetric providers to assure early HIV testing and treatment. Once pregnant women are identified, they need intensive support and education.

SETTING: Public and private obstetric offices throughout the Tampa Bay area. The University of South Florida (USF), Department of Pediatric Infectious Disease Clinic.

PROJECT: The HIV Perinatal Prevention Program offers a dual approach to decrease HIV transmission in the Tampa Bay area through the collaboration of an obstetric (OB) education coordinator and a perinatal nurse case manager. The Florida Family AIDS Network, a Title IV Program, provides an OB nurse-educator who meets with OB practices to assess their testing and counseling procedures, offer technical assistance and provide information related to administration of zidovudine (ZDV) and other antiretroviral therapies. She also introduces the perinatal nurse-case manager to the practices. Ryan White Title I funds administered through the USF Department of Pediatrics provide a perinatal HIV nurse-case manager to accept referrals of pregnant women from all OB practices in the Tampa Bay area. She provides 6 case management services and education to all HIV-infected pregnant women and their exposed infants.

RESULTS: From January 1998 to March 1999, 52 newborns have been referred to the USF Pediatric Program. In 38 cases, the mother was referred to the perinatal case manager prior to delivery. Three infants have been identified as HIV infected (transmission rate of 5.6%). None of the women with infected infants were case managed prior to delivery. One mother tested HIV-Ab negative very early in pregnancy and one mother was a drug abuser with no prenatal care. The third mother was given ZDV monotherapy; however, there was a lapse in treatment of her infant for 2 weeks after birth.

LESSONS LEARNED: Prevention of perinatal transmission of HIV requires a comprehensive community-based program which addresses obstetric education and support as well as maternal case management. HIV-infected pregnant women who receive case management services are more educated about their illness and prevention measures for their infants. Utilization of state and federal funding and collaboration among agencies providing these services is essential. Our model of combined case management and education program focusing on perinatal prevention has been well accepted. Our next goal is to target OB practices that have not consistently followed testing protocols for more intensive education.

PRESENTER CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Patricia J. Emmanuel, M.D.

Address: 17 Davis Blvd., Suite 200
Tampa, FL 33606

Telephone: (813) 272-2743

Fax: (813) 272-3358

E-mail: pemmanue@com1.med.usf.edu